AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 21 and 22 and replace it with the following amended one:

The present inventors also found that the austenitic stainless steel having large impurity contents of C, Mn, P and S reduces its sulfuric acid resistance due to deposition of MnS, iron phosphides (Fe_3P, Fe_2P, FeP, FeP_3), chromium carbide ~~($Cr_{23}C_6$)~~($Cr_{23}C$) and so forth in grain boundary ; that manganese sulfide (MnS) can be reduced by limiting Mn content to 1.00% or less, preferably to 0.45% or less, and S content to 0.005% or less; that chromium carbide ~~($Cr_{23}C_6$)~~$Cr_{23}C$ can be reduced by liming ~~CrC~~ content to less than 0.02%; that iron phosphide can be reduced by limiting P content to 0.03% or less; and that an excellent sulfuric acid resistance can be obtained when the total of these impurities satisfies a relation of $250\times C\%+5\times Mn\%+25\times P\%+200\times S\%<10$.

On page 43, please delete the second full paragraph and replace it with the following amended one:

Specific examples which can be adopted as metal base of the stainless steel; Fe-base alloy or Ni-base alloy; and Ti or Ti-base alloy will be enumerated below:

Ti or Ti-base alloy: pure Ti, Ti-22V-4Al;

stainless steel: SUS430, SUS304, SUS305, SUSXM7, SUS316, SUS316L, SUS317, SUS317L, SUS317J1, SUS310S and ~~SUSJ5L~~SUS317J5L;

Fe-base alloy: Incoloy 800; and

Ni-base alloy: Inconel 600, NCH1.

On page 46, please delete the first full paragraph and replace it with the following amended one:

For the case where the metal base 13 is cut from both surfaces thereof by the cutting edges 19, it is also allowable to adopt a method shown in FIG. 6A. That is, the metal base is preliminarily thinned, using a compression member 25, in the vicinity of

the planned cutting line as shown in FIG.4, and the cutting edges 19 are placed on the thinned planned cutting line, and the metal base is the cut. The separator for fuel cell will have, formed therein, also openings such as gas ~~flow~~outlet port 23, and alignment holes for the convenience of stacking. This sort of opening can be formed by preliminarily thinning a region around a site of formation of the opening by means of the compression member 25, and then by punching the region off using a press machine 26 as shown in FIG.6B. For the case where the region around the planned cutting line is thinned as described in the above, it is preferable to thin the metal base 13 to as thin as 0.1 mm or less. The methods shown in FIG. 6A and 6B make it possible to narrow the width of exposed surface of the metal base 13 in the end face 16 of the separator 10 or in the end face 28 of the opening 27 to as small as 1 mm or less, and further to as small as 0.1 mm or less.

Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 48 and 49, and replace it with the following amended one:

The gas diffusion layer ~~30~~32 is provided so as to allow the fuel gas or oxidizer gas, supplied through the recessed portions 15 (gas flow path 21) to the electrodes 2, 4 of the separator 10, to enter a catalyst layer 31 provided on each of the electrodes 2, 4 on the side thereof in contact with the polymer electrolyte film 3, from a more wide area. When the fuel gas or oxidizer gas passed through the gas diffusion layer ~~30~~32 reaches and enters the catalyst layer 31, the gases are oxidized or reduced to thereby produce electromotive force. The catalyst layer 31 has, as being immobilized thereon, the catalyst for activating the cell reactions (oxidation reaction at the anode and reduction reaction at the cathode) at the electrodes 2, 4. Pt is the catalyst adopted herein in this mode of embodiment, as the catalyst for activating the cell reactions.